1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General JOSHUA A. ROOM		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 214663		
5	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004		
6	Telephone: (415) 703-1299 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
	BEFORE THE		
8	BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
9	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3930		
11	SHAWNA LYNN PHILLIPS STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND		
12	4302 St. Paol Circle Pittsburg, CA 94565		
13			
14	Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56911		
15	Respondent.		
16	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public		
17	interest and the responsibility of the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs,		
18	the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order which will		
19	be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.		
20			
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant), Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, brough		
23	this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris,		
24	Attorney General of the State of California, by Joshua A. Room, Deputy Attorney General.		
25	2. Respondent Shawna Lynn Phillips (Respondent) is representing herself in this		
26	proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.		
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CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 3930. Respondent agrees that her License is subject to discipline and agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 9. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this stipulation, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

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DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56911, issued to Respondent Shawna Lynn Phillips (Respondent), is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for four (4) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. Certification Prior to Resuming Work

Respondent shall be automatically suspended from working as a pharmacy technician until she is certified as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4202(a)(4) and provides satisfactory proof of certification to the board. Respondent shall not resume working as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board. Failure to achieve certification within one (1) year shall be considered a violation of probation. Respondent shall not resume working as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board.

During any such suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of any other board licensed premises (wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs) any drug manufacturer, or any other location where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding or dispensing; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or assist any licensee of the board. Respondent shall not have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume work until notified by the board.

Failure to comply with any such suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

2. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the board, in writing, within seventy-two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty or nolo contendre in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment

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∐ 8	conviction	of any	crime

discipline, citation, or other administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves respondent's pharmacy technician license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug, device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report any such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

3. Report to the Board

Respondent shall report to the board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the board.

4. Interview with the Board

Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to board staff, or failure to appear at two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the board or its designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

5. Cooperate with Board Staff

Respondent shall cooperate with the board's inspection program and with the board's monitoring and investigation of respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of her probation. Failure to cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

6. Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 3930 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on respondent by the decision, as follows:

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment, respondent shall cause her direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge (including each new pharmacist-in-charge employed during respondent's tenure of employment), and owner to report to the board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case number 3930 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that her employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgement(s) to the board.

If respondent works for or is employed by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent must notify her direct supervisor, pharmacist-in-charge, and owner at every pharmacy of the terms and conditions of the decision in case number 3930 in advance of commencing work at each pharmacy. A record of this notification must be provided to the board upon request.

Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of respondent undertaking any new employment by or through a pharmacy employment service, respondent shall cause her direct supervisor with the pharmacy employment service to report to the board in writing acknowledging that she has read the decision in case number 3930 and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be respondent's responsibility to ensure that her employer(s) and/or supervisor(s) submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the board.

Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or to cause employer(s) to submit timely acknowledgements to the board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision shall include any full-time, part-time, temporary or relief service or pharmacy management service as a pharmacy technician or in any position for which a pharmacy technician license is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the respondent is considered an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

7. Notification of Departure

Prior to leaving the probationary geographic area designated by the board or its designee for a period greater than twenty-four (24) hours, respondent shall notify the board verbally and in writing of the dates of departure and return. Failure to comply with this provision shall be considered a violation of probation.

8. Notification of Change in Employment, Name, Address(es), or Phone(s)

Respondent shall notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of any change of employment. Said notification shall include the reasons for leaving, the address of the new employer, the name of the supervisor and owner, and the work schedule if known. Respondent shall further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of a change in name, residence address, mailing address, or phone number(s).

Failure to timely notify the board of any change in employer(s), name(s), address(es), or phone number(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

9. Abstain from Drugs and Alcohol Use

Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, dangerous drugs and their associated paraphernalia except when the drugs are lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment. Upon request of the board or its designee, respondent shall provide documentation from the licensed practitioner that the prescription for the drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the respondent. Failure to timely provide such documentation shall be considered a violation of probation. Respondent shall ensure that she is not in the same physical location as individuals who are using illicit substances even if respondent is not personally ingesting the drugs. Any possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, or their associated paraphernalia not supported by the documentation timely provided, and/or any physical proximity to persons using illicit substances, shall be considered a violation of probation.

10. Attend Substance Abuse Recovery Relapse Prevention and Support Groups

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall begin regular attendance at a recognized substance abuse recovery support group in California, (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, etc.) that has been approved by the board or its designee. Respondent must attend at least one group meeting per week unless otherwise directed by the board or its designee. Respondent shall continue regular attendance and submit signed and dated documentation confirming attendance with each quarterly report for the duration of probation. Failure to attend or submit documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

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11. Random Drug Screening

Respondent, at her own expense, shall participate in random testing, including but not limited to biological fluid testing (urine, blood), breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or other drug screening program as directed by the board or its designee. Respondent may be required to participate in testing for the entire probation period and the frequency of testing will be determined by the board or its designee.

At all times respondent shall fully cooperate with the board or its designee, and shall, when directed, submit to such tests or samples for detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs or controlled substances as the board or its designee may direct. Failure to timely submit to testing as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Upon request of the board or its designee, respondent shall provide documentation from a licensed practitioner that the prescription for a detected drug was legitimately issued and is a necessary part of the treatment of the respondent. Failure to timely provide such documentation shall be considered a violation of probation. Any confirmed positive test for alcohol or for any drug not lawfully prescribed by a licensed practitioner as part of a documented medical treatment shall be considered a violation of probation and shall result in the automatic suspension of work by respondent. Respondent may not resume work as a pharmacy technician until notified by the board in writing.

During any such suspension, respondent shall not enter any pharmacy area or any portion of any other board licensed premises (wholesaler, veterinary food-animal drug retailer or any other distributor of drugs) any drug manufacturer, or any other location where dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances are maintained. Respondent shall not do any act involving drug selection, selection of stock, manufacturing, compounding or dispensing; nor shall respondent manage, administer, or assist any licensee of the board. Respondent shall not have access to or control the ordering, manufacturing or dispensing of dangerous drugs and devices or controlled substances. Respondent shall not resume work until notified by the board.

Failure to comply with any such suspension shall be considered a violation of probation.

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12. Work Site Monitor

Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall identify a work site monitor, for prior approval by the board, who shall be responsible for supervising respondent during working hours. Respondent shall be responsible for ensuring that the work site monitor reports in writing to the board quarterly. Should the designated work site monitor determine at any time during the probationary period that respondent has not maintained sobriety, he/she shall notify the board immediately, either orally or in writing as directed. Should respondent change employment, a new work site monitor must be designated, for prior approval by the board, within ten (10) days of commencing new employment. Failure to identify an acceptable initial or replacement work site monitor, or to ensure quarterly reports are submitted to the board, shall be considered a violation of probation.

13. Community Services Program

Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall submit to the board or its designee, for prior approval, a community service program in which respondent shall provide free health-care related services on a regular basis to a community or charitable facility or agency for at least fifty (50) hours per year for the first two years of probation. Within thirty (30) days of board approval thereof, respondent shall submit documentation to the board showing the commencement of community service. Respondent shall report on progress with the community service program in the quarterly reports. Failure to timely submit, commence, comply with or document performance of the program shall be considered a violation of probation.

14. No Ownership of Licensed Premises

Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, or serve as a manager, administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm, partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the board. Respondent shall sell or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the board within ninety (90) days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written proof thereof to the board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.

15. Reimbursement of Board Costs

As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, respondent shall pay to the board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$4,182.50. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the board or its designee, so long as payment is completed no later than three (3) years after the effective date of this decision. There shall be no deviation from this schedule absent prior written approval by the board or its designee. Failure to pay costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by respondent shall not relieve respondent of her responsibility to reimburse the board its costs of investigation and prosecution.

16. Probation Monitoring Costs

Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the board on a schedule as directed by the board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

17. Tolling of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacy technician in California for a minimum of ten (10) hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall toll the period of probation, i.e., the period of probation shall be extended by one month for each month during which this minimum is not met. During any such period of tolling of probation, respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation.

Should respondent, regardless of residency, for any reason (including vacation) cease working as a pharmacy technician for a minimum of ten (10) hours per calendar month in California, respondent must notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of cessation of work and must further notify the board in writing within ten (10) days of the resumption of the work. Any failure to provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for respondent's probation to remain tolled pursuant to this condition for a total period, consecutive or non-consecutive, exceeding thirty-six (36) months.

8.

"Cessation of work" means calendar month during which respondent is not working for at least ten (10) hours as a pharmacy technician, as defined in Business and Professions Code section 4115. "Resumption of work" means any calendar month during which respondent is working for at least ten (10) hours as a pharmacy technician as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4115.

18. Status of License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current pharmacy technician license with the board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Failure to maintain an active, current license shall be considered a violation of probation.

If respondent's pharmacy technician license expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication respondent's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

19. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this decision, should respondent cease work due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may tender her pharmacy technician license to the board for surrender. The board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to grant the request for surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the respondent's license history with the board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, respondent shall relinquish her pharmacy technician license to the board within ten (10) days of notification by the board the surrender is accepted. Respondent may not reapply for any license, permit, or registration from the board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the board.

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20. Violation of Probation

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If respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction over respondent, and probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed.

If respondent violates probation in any respect, the board, after giving respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. Notice and opportunity to be heard are not required for those provisions stating that a violation thereof may lead to automatic termination of the stay and/or revocation of the license. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against respondent during probation, the board shall have continuing jurisdiction, and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided.

21. Completion of Probation

Upon written notice by the board indicating successful completion of probation, respondent's pharmacy technician license will be fully restored.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Pharmacy Technician License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 7-20-2011 Mayna J. Hullyn SHAWNA LYNN PHILLIPS

Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: 8/2/2011

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Joshua A. Room

Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 3930

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General JOSHUA A. ROOM		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 214663		
	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000		
5	San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-1299		
6	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant		
7			
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 3930		
Ì	SHAWNA LYNN PHILLIPS		
12	4302 St. Paol Circle Pittsburg, CA 94565 ACCUSATION		
13	Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH 56911		
14			
15	Respondent.		
16	Complainant alleges:		
17			
18	PARTIES PARTIES		
19	1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity		
20	as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.		
21	2. On or about June 21, 2004, the Board issued Pharmacy Technician License No. TCH		
22	56911 to Shawna Lynn Phillips (Respondent). The License was in full force and effect at all		
22			
23	times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2012, unless renewed.		
23 24			
24	times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2012, unless renewed.		
24 25	times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2012, unless renewed. <u>JURISDICTION</u>		

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- 4. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].
- 5. Section 4300(a) of the Code provides that every license issued by the Board may be suspended or revoked.
- 6. Section 118(b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the suspension, expiration, surrender, or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated. Section 4402(a) of the Code provides that any pharmacist license that is not renewed within three years following its expiration may not be renewed, restored, or reinstated and shall be canceled by operation of law at the end of the three-year period. Section 4402(e) of the Code provides that any other license issued by the Board may be canceled by the Board if not renewed within 60 days after its expiration, and will require a new application.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

- 7. Section 4301 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of "unprofessional conduct," defined to include, but not be limited to, any of the following:
- (f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not.
- (h) The administering to oneself, of any controlled substance, or the use of any dangerous drug or of alcoholic beverages to the extent or in a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to oneself, to a person holding a license under this chapter, or to any other person or to the public, or to the extent that the use impairs the ability of the person to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by the license.
- (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, of any other state, or of the United States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

- (o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency.
- 8. Section 4059 of the Code, in pertinent part, prohibits furnishing of any dangerous drug or dangerous device except upon the prescription of an authorized prescriber.
- 9. Section 4060 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that no person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished upon a valid prescription/drug order.
- 10. Section 4327 of the Code makes it unlawful for any person, while on duty, to sell, dispense or compound any drug while under the influence of a dangerous drug or alcohol.
- 11. Health and Safety Code section 11170 provides that no person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for himself or herself.
- 12. Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a), provides that no person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.
- 13. Health and Safety Code section 11350, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful to possess any controlled substance listed in Schedule II (Health and Safety Code section 11055), subdivision (b) or (c), or any narcotic drug in Schedules III-V, absent a valid prescription.
- 14. Health and Safety Code section 11550, in pertinent part, makes it unlawful for any person to use or be under the influence of any controlled substance in Schedule II (Health and Safety Code section 11055), subdivision (c), or any narcotic drug in Schedules III-V, except when administered by or under the direction of an authorized licensee.

COST RECOVERY

15. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed its reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES / DANGEROUS DRUGS

16. Section 4021 of the Code states:

"'Controlled substance' means any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code."

17. Section 4022 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"'Dangerous drug' or 'dangerous device' means any drug or device unsafe for self use, except veterinary drugs that are labeled as such, and includes the following:

"(a) Any drug that bears the legend: 'Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,' 'Rx only,' or words of similar import.

. . .

- "(c) Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006."
- 18. **Methadone** is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(c)(14) and a dangerous drug as designated by Business and Professions Code section 4022. It is a narcotic drug.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 19. From an unknown start date until on or about February 3, 2010, Respondent worked as a pharmacy technician at San Ramon Regional Medical Center Pharmacy (HSP 45979) in San Ramon, CA, where she had access to controlled substances and dangerous drugs.
- 20. Respondent used her access to divert/steal controlled substances and dangerous drugs, including **Methadone** or **methadone**-containing products.
- 21. The exact number of instances of diversion/theft by Respondent, and the full quantity of controlled substances or dangerous drugs diverted/stolen, are not known, but in the course of investigations conducted by the hospital and the Board, the following were reported:
- a. Between in or around November 2009 and in or around January 2010, audits or investigations of controlled substance inventories at the hospital discovered discrepancies in the methadone tablets and liquid vials between the central (Omnicell) vault and the floor unit(s).

- b. Further investigation revealed (i) that Respondent was the technician assigned to the secure vault each time the inventory record showed that the **methadone** dispensed from the central vault never made it to the designated floor unit(s); and (ii) secure passcodes assigned to pharmacists I.L. and I.O-K. were used when those pharmacists were not on duty.
- c. On or about January 28, 2010, Respondent was confronted by her supervisor(s). She subsequently admitted that she had a problem with addiction to **methadone**, had been self-administering **methadone** without prescription for approximately one (1) year (beginning with street **methadone** and progressing to the hospital's supply), that she had diverted both tablets and vials of liquid **methadone** (including one vial that she replaced in stock and refilled with saline), that she had used at least two (2) pharmacists' passcodes without their permission to accomplish the theft/diversion, and that she had self-administered **methadone** while on duty at the hospital.
- d. On or about November 10, 2009, the hospital/pharmacy submitted a Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances (DEA Form 106) to the DEA, and to the Board, listing a theft or loss of one 60 ml vial of **methadone HCL 10 mg/ml**, which had been tampered with (the contents were replaced with saline). On or about January 29, 2010, the hospital/pharmacy sent a Report of Theft or Loss of Controlled Substances (DEA Form 106) to the DEA, and to the Board, listing a theft or loss of 512 tablets **methadone HCL 10 mg**. All of these thefts were attributed to the diversion/theft conducted by Respondent during the tenure of her employment.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Acts Involving Moral Turpitude, Dishonesty, Fraud, Deceit or Corruption)

22. Respondent is subject to discipline under section 4301(f) of the Code, in that Respondent, as described in paragraphs 19 to 21 above, committed numerous acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or corruption.

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¹ Full names will be provided to Respondent during discovery.

- 2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as is deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 4/27/1/

VIRGINIA HEROLD Executive Officer Board of Pharmacy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

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